## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A composition for treating symptoms and conditions associated with aging, the composition including an active ingredient comprising a fractionation product of an aqueous extract of buckwheat seed containing polymers having 4 to 9 monomer units having a molecular weight of from about 1,000 to about 10,000,

wherein the composition activates a function of the brain's activity.

- 2. The composition according to Claim 1, wherein the aqueous extract of buckwheat seed has a molecular weight of about 1500 or more.
- 3. The composition according to Claim 1, wherein the composition activates the function of the brain's activity for alleviating and treating symptoms and conditions caused by dementia.
- 4. The composition according to Claim 2, wherein the composition activates the function of the brain's activity for alleviating and treating symptoms and conditions caused by dementia.
- 5. The composition according to Claim 1, wherein the composition activates the function of the brain's activity for alleviating and treating symptoms and conditions caused by Alzheimer's syndrome.
- 6. The composition according to Claim 2, wherein the composition activates the function of the brain's activity for

alleviating and treating symptoms and conditions caused by Alzheimer's syndrome.

- 7. The composition according to Claim 1, wherein the composition activates the function of the brain's activity for inhibiting lipid peroxide.
- 8. The composition according to Claim 2, wherein the composition activates the function of the brain's activity for inhibiting lipid peroxide.
- 9. The composition according to Claim 1, wherein the composition activates the function of the brain's activity for treating hyperlipemia.
- 10. The composition according to Claim 2, wherein the composition activates the function of the brain's activity for treating hyperlipemia.
- 11. The composition according to Claim 1, wherein the composition activates the function of the brain's activity for lowering triacylglycerol levels.
- 12. The composition according to Claim 2, wherein the composition activates the function of the brain's activity for lowering triacylglycerol levels.
- 13. The composition according to Claim 1, wherein the composition activates the function of the brain's activity for lowering cholesterol levels.
- 14. The composition according to Claim 2, wherein the composition activates the function of the brain's activity for lowering cholesterol levels.
  - 15. The composition according to Claim 1, wherein the

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polymer having four to nine monomer units comprises a catechinepicatechin polymer having four to nine monomer units.

16. The composition according to Claim 1, wherein the polymer having four to nine monomer units comprises a catechin-epicatechin polymer of the formula:

wherein n has a value of from 2 to 7.

- 17. The composition of claim 16 wherein n has a value of 3.
- 18. The composition of claim 16 wherein n has a value of 5.
- 19. The composition of claim 16 wherein n has a value of 7.

- 20. The composition of claim 2 wherein the catechinepicatechin polymer comprises an catechin-epicatechin oligomer.
- 21. A method of improving the memory of animals comprising administering to said animals an effective amount of a compound of the formula:

wherein n has a value of from 2 to 7.